



American Society of Safety Engineers Mobile Chapter Newsletter



American Society of Safety Engineers

Mobile Chapter www.asse.org

May 2008

2007-2008

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Close Calls - Take a Close Look at Close Calls

A “close call” or accident without injury is easy to shrug off and forget. But, there is a danger in brushing off accidents that don’t hurt, harm or damage. When a “close call” happens, it should immediately send up a red warning flag that something was wrong, unplanned, unexpected, and could happen again.

For every accident there are usually several contributing factors, most of which can be controlled. The best way to prevent the reoccurrence of an accident is by looking at those “close calls.” By investigating the root causes of an accident, steps can be taken to eliminate the hazard and improve the work system.

Sometimes there are multiple causes for an accident involving: equipment (unguarded machinery), environment (poor lighting or noise level), people (procedures not understood or not followed) or management (allowed shortcuts). Don’t rush to judge. Examine the facts and find what’s missing. Look for immediate and underlying causes. An immediate cause may be an unsafe condition like a mechanical failure or it could be an unsafe action by an employee.

All incidents should be reported to the supervisor so that accident/injury report forms can be completed. Once an investigation is completed, solutions should be sought to prevent the accident from occurring again. Solutions may involve engineering controls, administrative controls, additional training, or increased communication between management and workers.

Everyone should daily inspect the work area for unsafe conditions or unsafe actions and, if found, report them to the supervisor. Hazard awareness is key to preventing accidents before they happen. Take steps to eliminate hazards as soon as they are discovered. Learn the real lesson from close calls.

If any of you ever hear of job opportunities that can benefit our members please send them to Della.Brunson@white-spinner.com and we will add them to the newsletter.

Our monthly ASSE meetings will be held on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each Month, therefore our next meeting will be **Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 11:30 am.**

We will meet at the American Café on Airport Blvd.



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ASSE 2007-2008 Programs

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Business</u>
May 21, 2008	Elevator Maintenance, EMR's and Officer Elections	
June 18, 2008	Officer Installation, Past Pres. Luncheon	

Safety Picture of the Month



Be sure to always check out our National ASSE site for upcoming safety training sessions and seminars. The internet address for the training and seminars is:

www.asse.org/education

The American Café

Driving Directions from I-10 West

Merge onto I-65 N via Exit 20 toward Montgomery
 Take the AIRPORT BLVD exit- Exit 3
 Turn LEFT onto AIRPORT BLVD/CR-56W
 Turn Right 0.1 miles
 End at 3662 Airport Blvd Mobile, AL 36608